

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

ONE WINTER STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108 617-292-5500

STEPHEN R. PRITCHARD Secretary

ROBERT W. GOLLEDGE, Jr. Commissioner

KERRY HEALEY Lieutenant Governor

This Letter Was Addressed and Mailed to Owner/Operators of Major Air Facilities

Date: May 2, 2006

To: Source Registration Filers for "Major" Air Facilities

Re: 2005 Source Registration - eDEP will accept forms until October 31, 2006

MassDEP is extending the time for acceptance of 2005 Source Registration forms for "major" air facilities until October 31, 2006 to allow for significant upgrades to MassDEP's online reporting system, eDEP. We strongly recommend that users of eDEP postpone work on the forms until August. If you have already submitted your Source Registration forms, you will not be affected by this change and your data is secure with MassDEP. Thank you for working with our new system.

To date, MassDEP has received more than 300 Source Registration forms on-line. Unfortunately, many users have encountered significant problems with the performance of the Source Registration forms, including extended wait times for the forms to download, dropped sessions, and corrupt forms. These have caused unacceptable delays and difficulties in online filing for Source Registration.

In response, MassDEP is conducting a major diagnostic effort to identify the causes of these problems and will take the necessary steps to correct them.. This effort has already begun; we anticipate an additional 2-3 months will be required for us to have the system ready for your use.

To allow time for these improvements to be made, we are granting additional time – until October 31, 2006 – for facilities to submit their 2005 Source Registrations without any enforcement consequences. This forbearance applies to the 2005 reporting year only. Please be aware that failure to submit accurate, complete, and signed forms by October 31, 2006 may result in Administrative Penalties of up to \$1,000 per day.

While we are upgrading our system, please bear in mind the following:

- If you have already begun filling out the forms online, you will still be able to use eDEP to file your Source Registration forms.
- ▶ While we strongly recommend that you wait until August, you may start new packages of forms if you find it necessary.
- Between now and August, you are likely to experience the delays and other problems that previous filers have experienced.

This information is available in alternate format. Call Donald M. Gomes, ADA Coordinator at 617-556-1057. TDD Service - 1-800-298-2207.

¹ For the purpose of this letter, the term 'major' means any facility required to submit source registration **annually**. The term includes the following: a facility subject to the operating permit program, 310 CMR 7.00: Appendix C; a facility operating under a RES pursuant to 310 CMR 7.02(9); a facility with actual emissions of NOx or VOC equal to or greater than 25 tons per year; a facility subject to a NESHAP or a MACT standard defined at 40 CFR Part 61 and Part 63, for which the Department has received delegation from EPA; or a facility required by a condition of a plan approval since January 1, 1990 to file Source Registration annually.

- MassDEP staff who would provide assistance to you are also engaged in the upgrades. You may still contact the Source Registration help desk by e-mail or phone; however, there may be a short delay in getting back to you. We appreciate your patience.
- ▶ Whether you continue to work in eDEP or wait until August, you will not lose any data the planned eDEP system changes will NOT affect your existing data, or any data that you enter while we are upgrading the system.
- Other eDEP forms have not been affected by these problems and continue to perform well (over 26,000 on-line submissions were received last year).

MassDEP will provide regular updates on our progress with the upgrades to the online Source Registration system on our website at http://www.mass.gov/dep/service/compliance/sr.htm

If you have specific questions, please email: air.quality@state.ma.us

Note: this deferral does not affect your compliance fee amount or when you must pay the compliance fee. This also does NOT change the due date for any other reports to MassDEP.

We will contact you again when the eDEP system enhancements are complete. At that time, we will also resume Source Registration training. We appreciate your patience with the new online filing system and apologize for any inconvenience.

Very truly yours,

Division of Planning and Evaluation Bureau of Waste Prevention

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